



**BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE**

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION
RE: CHARLES MARTIN DUKE, #023607
CONTACT: STEVEN J. CHRISTOPHER
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
615-361-7500

October 12, 2022

DAVIDSON COUNTY LAWYER CENSURED

On October 11, 2022, Charles Martin Duke, an attorney licensed to practice law in Tennessee, received a Public Censure from the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Mr. Duke agreed to represent a client in probating an estate. An order of guardianship was entered in connection with the handling of the probate estate which required, in pertinent part, that realty within the probate estate be sold and the proceeds deposited with the Court Clerk. Through an inadvertent error, the proceeds were deposited into a bank account opened and maintained by the client in connection with the probate proceeding. After becoming aware of the error, Mr. Duke failed to take proper action to facilitate the transfer of the funds to the Court Clerk or to amend the order of guardianship. Mr. Duke also failed to maintain good communication with his client during the representation.

By these acts, Mr. Duke has violated Rules of Professional Conduct 1.3 (diligent representation), and 1.4 (communication), and is hereby Publicly Censured for these violations.

A Public Censure is a rebuke and warning to the attorney, but it does not affect the attorney's ability to practice law.

Duke 68960-5 rel.doc